

2013 Arctic Report Card

Climate.gov Visual Highlights

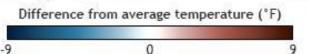
larger versions and detailed captions available @

http://www.climate.gov/news-features/understandingclimate/2013-arctic-report-card-visual-highlights

April-May 2013 Russia Alaska Greenland Canada

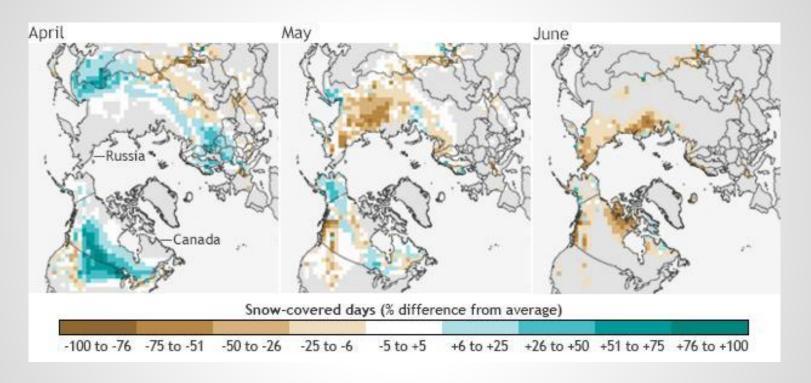


Spring temperature patterns divided the Arctic into warm and cool extremes.



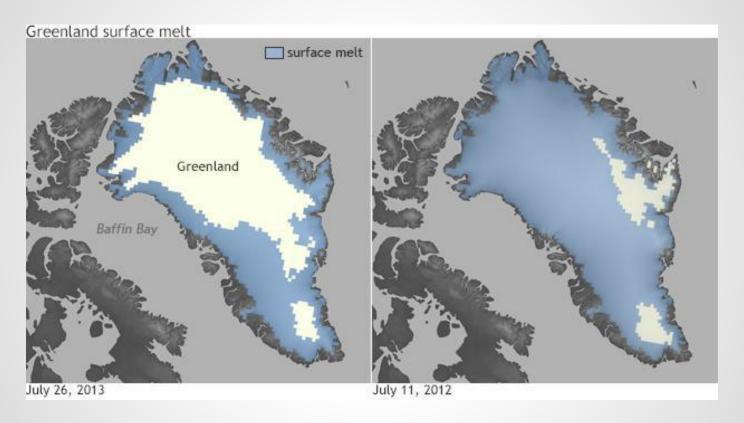
Atlantic Ocean





Northern Hemisphere snow cover again below average, new record low in Eurasia in May.

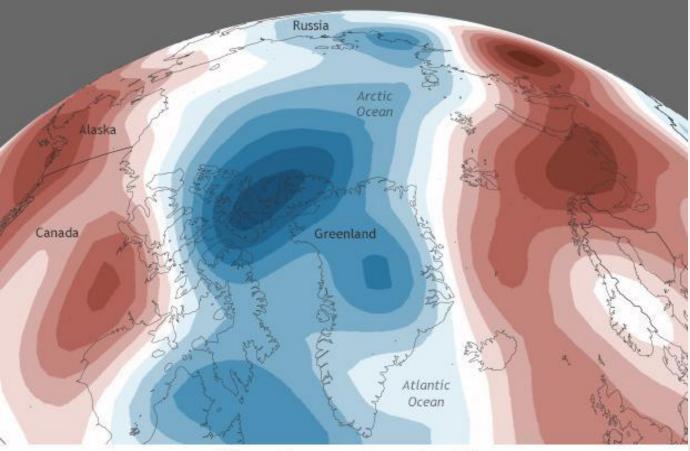




Surface melt on Greenland Ice Sheet back near average in 2013.

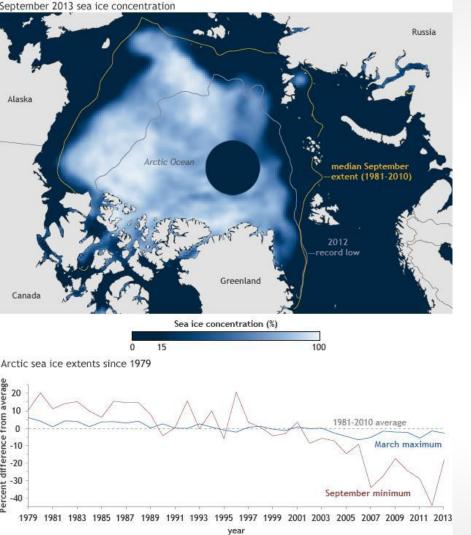
June-August 2013 Climate.gov





Many areas of the Arctic got a reprieve from the record warmth of the past 6 summers.

Difference from average temperature (°F)

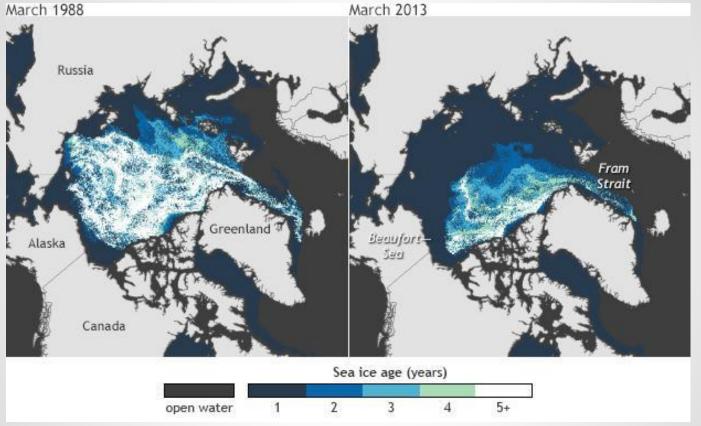




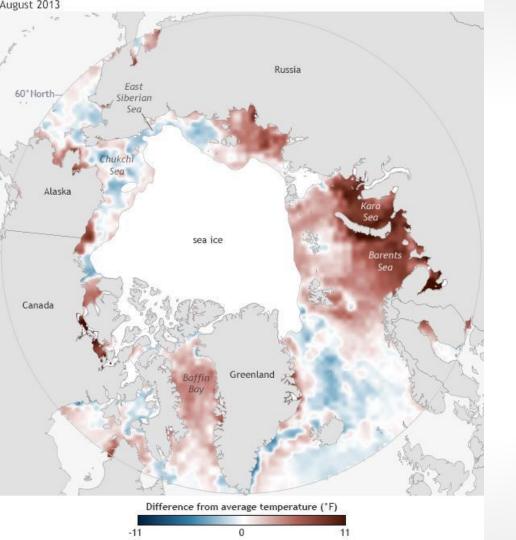
Summer minimum Arctic sea ice extent larger than 2012 record low, still sixth smallest on record.

The seven lowest ice extents in the satellite record have occurred during the last seven summers.



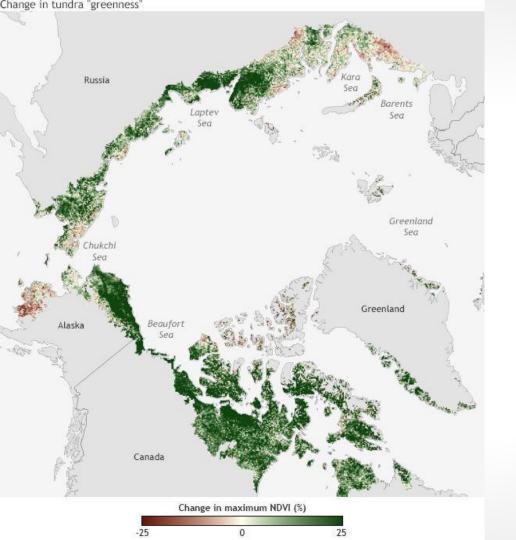


In March 2013 at the winter maximum, 78% of the Arctic ice pack was only one year old, while only 7% was old (4+ years), thick ice.





Arctic boundary waters
warmer than average in
summer 2013; the Arctic
Ocean and adjacent waters
are becoming more
hospitable to species from
lower latitudes.





Greener Arctic tundra of recent past likely to be the new normal.

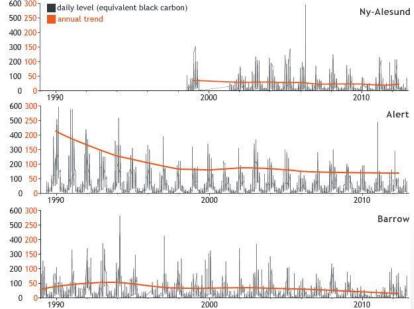




The winter ranges of many reindeer and caribou herds are smaller than they used to be and many populations have unusually low numbers.



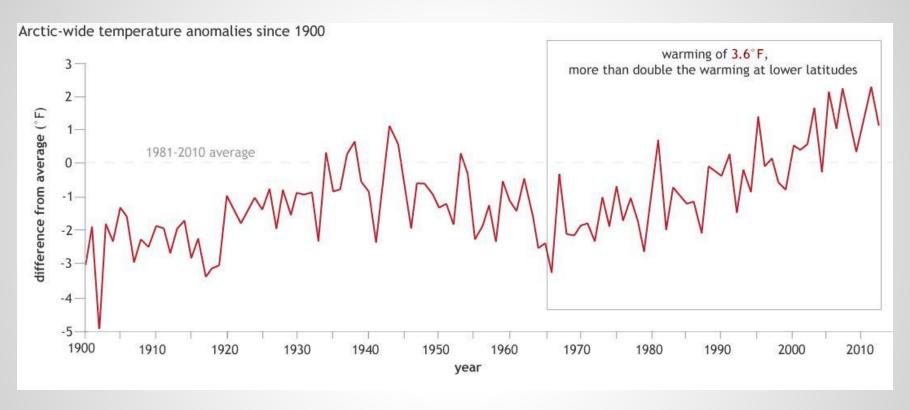




year

Atmospheric soot—"black carbon"—decreasing across high Arctic.





Arctic had 6th warmest year on record in 2012 (last full calendar year available)